Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Office of Waste Management

2000 Annual Solid Waste Report

For the second year in a row, the Department of Environmental Management has sent surveys to solid waste management facilities and/or composting facilities in Rhode Island. The Survey details the tonnages of solid waste, construction and demolition waste, recyclables, and leaf and yard waste received, stored and removed by facilities and the tonnages of waste landfilled within Rhode Island.

Rhode Island also utilized the submitted information for an Interstate Flow of Municipal Solid Waste Report that was generated by the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA). This organization consists or environmental state regulators from each of the six New England states, as well as, New York and New Jersey. The report tracks the amount of solid waste imported and exported by the Northeast States. To view the NEWMOA Interstate Flow of Municipal Solid Waste Report please click on the following link http://www.newmoa.org/Newmoa/htdocs/solidwaste/flow.cfm.

The types of facilities that submit completed surveys are landfills, transfer stations, construction and demolition debris processing facilities, petroleum contaminated soil processing facilities, and composting facilities. In 2000, there were 45 licensed or registered solid waste management facilities in Rhode Island. The majority of these facilities are still operating and licensed/registered by the Department.

Landfills

During the year 2000, four landfills operated in Rhode Island – Central Landfill, Tiverton Landfill, Bristol Landfill and Charlestown Landfill. Approximately 97% of Rhode Island's solid waste was disposed of at the Central Landfill in Johnston. Charlestown Landfill ceased operating in June 2000 and municipal solid waste generated in Charlestown after that date was disposed of at the Central Landfill. The total calculated tons of material landfilled in 2000 was 1,319,583 tons. The figure includes 254,790 tons of alternative daily cover used at the landfills. Alternative daily cover may consist of contaminated soil, construction and demolition debris screenings, dredge, street sweepings, Posi-shell and other approved materials. Alternative daily cover is utilized to preserve virgin soils for other uses.

Transfer Stations and Construction and Demolition Debris Processing Facilities

In 2000, the 27 transfer stations and/or construction and demolition debris processing facilities received 852,297 tons of solid waste, construction and demolition waste and recyclables. 797,562 tons was removed from these facilities, which leaves 54,735 tons being stored at facilities. The Solid Waste Regulations allow construction and demolition debris processing facilities to store processed material for up to 3 months.

Composting Facilities

In the year 2000, 14 composting facilities and one facility that performs composting activities, but is not registered with the Department, submitted surveys. The total amount of material received was 80,016 tons and 69,176 tons was removed.